



Papua LNG Project – Downstream

Project Changes Summary

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ExxonMobil PNG Antelope Limited (EMPNGA)

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ExxonMobil

Objective

The objective of this document is to summarise project changes to the Papua LNG Project – Downstream as presented in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). This summary includes outlining the nature and extent of design modifications, scope adjustments, and changes to the execution strategy, as well as how these changes influence the evaluation of previously assessed potential environmental and social impacts.

Background Overview

The Papua LNG Project comprises two interrelated development components, the Papua LNG Project – Downstream (the Downstream component) and the Papua LNG Project – Upstream (the Upstream component). The Papua LNG Project – Downstream will construct gas treatment facilities and new liquefaction trains to be co-located at the existing PNG LNG Project (LNG Plant) site.

ExxonMobil PNG Antelope Limited (EMPNGA) is the ExxonMobil affiliate responsible for the construction of the Downstream component. The Upstream facilities are being constructed and operated by TotalEnergies EP PNG Ltd, the PNG-based affiliate for TotalEnergies.

This Project Changes Summary provides an overview of changes to project design that have occurred since submission of the EIS, and subsequent issue of an Environment Permit for the Downstream component.

The Papua LNG Project intends to build three new LNG trains, co-located with the existing trains of the ExxonMobil PNG Limited (EMPNG) LNG Plant in Caution Bay (Central Province). The additional trains will increase the capacity of the plant to process hydrocarbons supplied from the development of the Elk and Antelope reservoirs in Gulf Province. Once the new LNG facilities are constructed and commissioned, the ExxonMobil affiliate Niugini LNG Operating Company Limited (NLOC), will be responsible for operation of the integrated LNG Plant (both new and existing facilities). An EIS for the Downstream component (Downstream EIS) was submitted to the PNG Conservation and Environment Protection Authority (CEPA) by EMPNGA in July 2023. On 18 February 2025, the Minister for Environment, Conservation and Climate Change gave “Approval In-Principle” for the Development of the Papua LNG Project – Downstream. An Environment Permit, EP-L3(1008), was issued for the Papua LNG Project – Downstream on 24 March 2025.

Figure 1: Papua LNG Project – Downstream Overview



The Downstream EIS outlined activities required for the construction and operation of a catenary anchor leg mooring (CALM) buoy and associated infrastructure including ground clearance, trenching/pipelaying, vessel movements, implementation of marine exclusion zones, and transfer of condensate to vessels.

Subsequent changes in both Upstream and Downstream project design occurred following the issuance of Environment Permit EP-L3(1008), resulting in some previously proposed activities no longer being required for the project. An application to amend Environment Permit EP-L3(1008) was submitted to remove or amend conditions related to these activities. Environment Permit EP-L3(1008) was amended on 4 May 2026.

Prior to Environment Permit EP-L3(1008) amendment, a series of community engagement sessions were conducted in 2026 from March 16th to March 26th, to provide updates on project design changes. These sessions were held jointly with CEPA in Porebada (16 March), Boera (19 March), Papa (24 March), Lealea (26 March).

The primary focus was the removal of the CALM buoy and the rerouting of the condensate pipeline to a Floating Storage and Offloading (FSO) facility. These changes are expected to reduce construction costs while minimising potential environmental and community impacts.

CEPA also provided a regulatory update, covering the issuance and ongoing amendment of environment permits to align with the amended project design.

Figure 1 provides a high-level overview of the Papua LNG Project and existing related infrastructure. This document describes the revised project design and the anticipated changes to impacts that are predicted to occur as a result of the project design changes.

Design Summary

Project design changes mean that condensate will no longer be conveyed to the LNG Plant for processing and subsequent export. The reroute of the condensate export pipeline to a floating storage and offloading facility (FSO) in the Gulf of Papua, removes the need for a CALM buoy and associated condensate and naphtha marine offloading infrastructure, including a pipeline end manifold (PLEM). This infrastructure was proposed to be located south of the existing LNG Plant jetty.

The previously proposed marine exclusion zone associated with the CALM buoy, comprising a 500-m-radius around the CALM buoy, and an additional CALM buoy navigational channel, will also no longer be required.

An alternative Papua LNG gas pipeline alignment is proposed, located north of the existing LNG Plant jetty. This alignment makes landfall and connects to the LNG Plant near the existing PNG LNG pipeline. The marine construction aspects of this pipeline, as well as the condensate export pipeline to the FSO, will be managed by TotalEnergies EP PNG Ltd as part of the Upstream project and are outside the scope of the Downstream project and associated requirements of Environment Permit EP-L3(1008).

Figure 1 shows a regional overview of the Papua LNG Project after design changes, including the revised condensate pipeline to the FSO.

The marine infrastructure layout for the Papua LNG Project in Caution Bay assessed in the Downstream EIS submitted in July 2023 is shown in Figure 2. The revised (current), project concept design representing the amended marine infrastructure layout in Caution Bay is illustrated in Figure 3, which shows the removal of the:

- CALM buoy, and naphtha and condensate pipelines south of the LNG Plant jetty;
- 500-m-radius CALM buoy marine exclusion zone and navigational area; and
- Supplementary navigational channel.

Figure 3 also shows the amended Papua LNG gas pipeline alignment that is now proposed as part of the Upstream component, to be constructed by TotalEnergies. The TotalEnergies pipeline construction method now uses horizontal directional drilling (HDD) to construct the gas pipeline section between the LNG plant and the Caution Bay marine environment.

Figure 2: Papua LNG Project – Downstream EIS project design – 2023

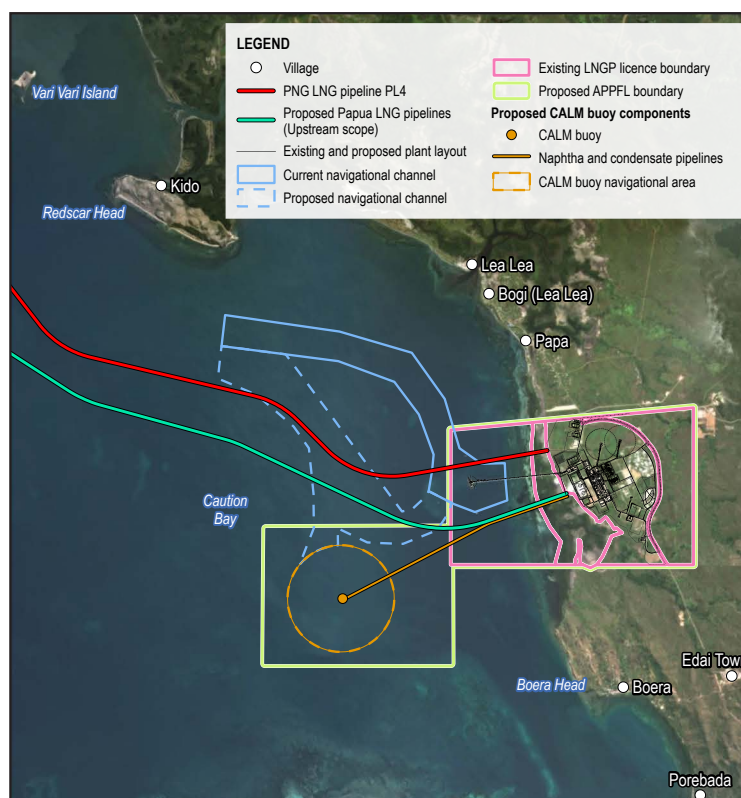
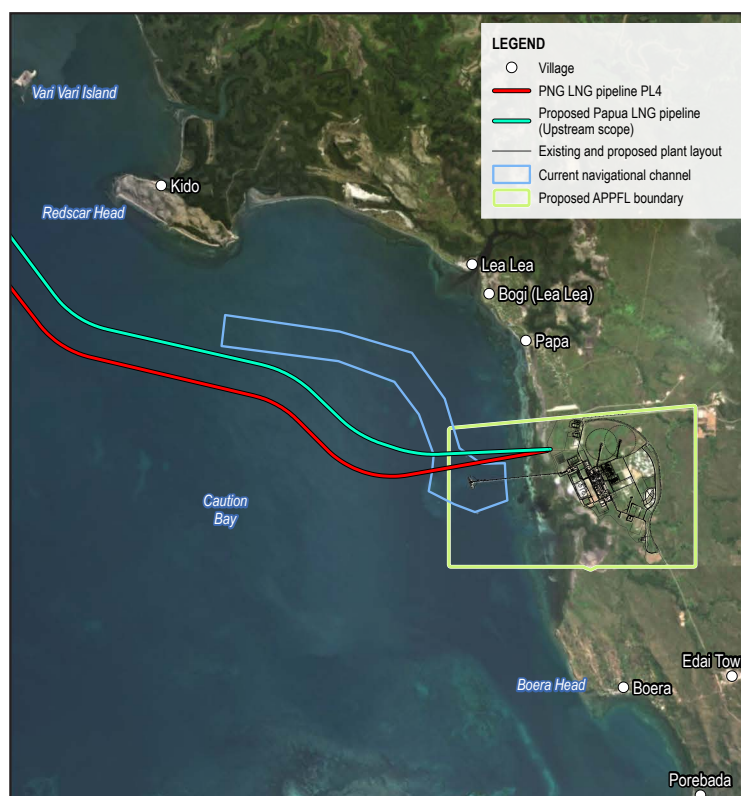


Figure 3: Papua LNG Project – Downstream revised project design – 2025



Anticipated Changes to Predicted Impacts

The project design changes have:

- Removed the need for a 500-m-radius marine exclusion zone and navigational area for the CALM buoy.
- Removed the need for an additional navigational channel.
- Reduced the volume of additional project-related vessel traffic in Caution Bay.

These changes will result in the avoidance of potential social impacts such as extended travel times around exclusion zones to access marine resources and artisanal and subsistence fishing activities.

The potential stressors and impacts to fauna, mangrove, intertidal and submerged benthic habitats south of the existing jetty due to the installation and operation of the CALM Buoy will also not occur. In comparison to the impacts presented in the Downstream EIS, the changes will result in:

- Reduced direct physical impacts to, and disturbance of, coastal and marine habitats.
- Reduced volumes of suspended sediment and sedimentation rates.
- Reduced contamination of sediments and impacts to water quality.
- Reduced generation of light and underwater noise.
- Reduced potential for introduction of invasive species.

The onshore portion of the revised TotalEnergies gas pipeline alignment will be of a shorter length than that assessed for the Downstream EIS. This is due to shifting the pipeline further north of the jetty and a more direct route to the tie-in point at the LNG Plant fenceline. This is anticipated to result in less disturbance to mangrove and intertidal mudflat / saltpan habitat compared to the originally proposed alignment assessed in the Downstream EIS. Mitigation and management measures identified in the Downstream EIS will also apply to the Caution Bay onshore portion of the TotalEnergies gas pipeline alignment (Upstream component).

EMPNGA is the Project proponent and will be responsible for the construction of the Project. Niugini LNG Operating Company Limited (NLOC), an ExxonMobil affiliate, will be responsible for the operation of the integrated LNG Plant once it has been constructed and commissioned. For the purposes of this Project Changes Summary, the term 'ExxonMobil' refers to EMPNGA and NLOC, or both, as the case requires. Nothing in this Project Changes Summary is intended to override the corporate separateness of any entity.



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Further information

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